

FULICA CRISTATA. (Grant & Reid, p. 695.)

*a, b.* ♀. Harramaier, 15th January. Nos. 79, 80.

ROUGETIUS ROUGETI. (Grant, p. 331.)

*a.* ♀. Dembretcha, 1st May. No. 317.

PODICIPES CAPENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 695.)

*a, b.* ♂ ♀. Harramaier, 16th January. Nos. 84, 85.

PODICIPES NIGRICOLLIS. (Grant, p. 331.)

*a, b.* ♀. Harramaier, 16th January. No. 86.

VINAGO WAALIA. (Grant & Reid, p. 695.)

*a.* Ad. Marmasa, 22nd January. No. 116.

*b.* ♂. Buggali, 3rd March. No. 216.

*c.* ♂. Hara, Lake Zwai, 7th March. No. 236.

COLUMBA GUINEA. (Grant & Reid, p. 696.)

*a.* ♀ juv. Dubra Marcos, 23rd April. No. 312.

TURTUR SENEGALENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 696.)

*a.* ♂. Harrar, 1st January. No. 46.

CENA CAPENSIS. (Grant & Reid, p. 696.)

*a.* ♂. Billen, 30th January. No. 159.

*b.* ♀. Amibarra, 2nd February. No. 173.

CHALCOPELIA AFRA. (Grant & Reid, p. 697.)

This specimen belongs to the form with green metallic wing-spots, recognised by Dr. Sharpe as *C. chalcospilus* Bonap. [*cf.* Bull. B. O. C. xii. p. 83 (1902)].

*a.* ♀. Marmasa, 21st January. No. 115.

XXI.—*On some rare and unfigured Eggs of Palearctic Birds*\*.

By H. E. DRESSER, F.Z.S., M.B.O.U., &c.

(Plate VII.)

IN continuation of my former articles on the eggs of Palearctic birds, I now beg to offer to the members of the B. O. U. some further notes on the same subject with accom-

\* For previous papers on the same subject, see 'Ibis,' 1901, p. 445; 1902, p. 177; 1903, pp. 88, 404; and 1904, p. 106.

panying illustrations. On this occasion, however, I propose to treat only of eggs of Eastern Palearctic species.

(1) *CHIMARRHORNIS LEUCOCEPHALUS*. White-capped Redstart. (Pl. VII. figs. 1, 3.)

*Chimarrhornis leucocephalus*, Dresser, Man. Pal. B. p. 60.

The eggs of this Redstart are rare, and, not having been able to procure any for my own collection, I am indebted to Mr. Davidson for the loan of the two specimens now figured.

According to the late Mr. A. Anderson ('Nests and Eggs of Indian Birds,' 2nd ed. ii. p. 68), "the nest of this bird is very like that of the European Robin, and is composed outwardly of green moss, roots, and fibres, the egg-cavity being profusely lined with goat's hair. Its usual position is in a hollow of a bank on the side of a stream, the entrance being sheltered by overgrowing moss and ferns. The eggs are three in number." The two specimens taken by this gentleman were both obtained on the 20th of May from nests placed on a high precipitous moss-covered bank which overlooked a boiling rapid. The two eggs figured are from different clutches, both taken by Mr. Davidson himself and carefully identified. They shew great variation.

Mr. Davidson informs me that these eggs were "taken at Sonamerg, Kashmir, on the 1st and 4th of June, 1896; each clutch contained four eggs, but another clutch obtained at the same place contained only three. One nest was in a dead stump seven or eight feet from the ground, and I thought, before seeing the eggs, that it must be that of a Tit, but I saw the bird enter. Other nests were in large crevices in the rocks quite exposed, whereas two nests were in holes in the ground; one, which I dug out, was behind a rock, and contained young birds, and another was in a bank, but I was unable to cross the river to get at it, as I doubted being able to swim against the swift stream."

(2) *PYCNONOTUS LEUCOTIS*. White-cared Bulbul. (Pl. VII. figs. 4, 5.)

*Pycnonotus leucotis* Dresser, Man. Pal. B. p. 224.

The two eggs now figured were taken by Mr. Zarudny at

Podagi, in Baluchistan, on the 26th of April, 1901, and are in my own collection. According to Mr. Oates ('Nests and Eggs of Indian Birds,' 2nd ed. i. p. 177), the nest of this species is usually placed in dense and thorny bushes, at heights of from four to six feet from the ground. "The nests are usually composed of very fine dry twigs of some herbaceous plant, intermingled with vegetable fibre resembling tow, and scantily lined with very fine grass-roots. They are rather slender structures, shallow cups, measuring internally from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 inches in diameter, and a little more than 1 inch in depth." Three appears to be the full complement of eggs, and the average size of twenty-three eggs was 0.83 (barely) by 0.64 inch.

(3) *HYPSIPETES AMAUROTIS*. Brown-eared Bulbul. (Pl. VII. figs. 6, 8.)

*Hypsipetes amaurotis* Dresser, Man. Pal. B. p. 226.

The two eggs figured are in my own collection; they were taken at Sagami, in Japan, on the 28th of May, 1898, the nest being placed in a cherry-tree about 20 feet from the ground. The nest of this Bulbul is constructed of twigs, moss, and coarse roots, lined with fine roots, the usual number of eggs being four.

(4) *FALCO ALTAICUS*. Altai Gyrfalcon. (Pl. VII. fig. 7.)

*Falco altaicus* Dresser, Man. Pal. B. p. 542.

So far as I can ascertain, the specimen now figured is the only authentic example known of the egg of this Falcon. It was received from Mr. Zarudny, who informed me that it was procured in the Altai Mountains along with the parent bird, but gave me no particulars respecting the nest. The egg measures 2.16 by 1.67 inch.

(5) *PHASIANUS SCINTILLANS*. (Pl. VII. fig. 2.)

*Phasianus scintillans* Dresser, Man. Pal. B. p. 667.

The egg now figured is one of two sent to me by Prof. Isao Ijima, of Tokio, who informed me that they were obtained at Kozugo, Japan, in May 1892. He assured me that they were carefully identified, but gave me no particulars respecting the nest.



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EGGS OF PALÆARCTIC BIRDS.

## EXPLANATION OF PLATE VII.

## Eggs of

- Figs. 1, 3. *Chimarrhornis leucocephalus*, p. 281.  
 „ 2. *Phasianus scintillans*, p. 282.  
 „ 4, 5. *Pycnonotus leucotis*, p. 281.  
 „ 6, 8. *Hypsipetes amaurotis*, p. 282.  
 „ 7. *Falco altaicus*, p. 282.

## XXII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 163.]

28. *Anderson and Grinnell on the birds of N.W. California.*

[Birds of the Siskiyou Mountains, California: a Problem in Distribution. By Malcolm P. Anderson and Joseph Grinnell. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philad. 1903. 15 pp.]

After a preliminary description of the district, which occupies the north-western corner of Siskiyou county close to the Oregon boundary, a list of the species of birds, as determined by Mr. Grinnell, is given, with field-notes by Mr. Anderson. In the "summary" it is stated that the results shew that the Siskiyou mountains are evidently "on the narrow line of mergence between the humid coast-Fauna and the arid Sierran-Fauna. Representative species of these two areas occur in about equal numbers."

29. '*Aquila*' for 1903.

[*Aquila*. A Magyar Ornithologiai Központ Folyóirata. Periodical of Ornithology. Journal pour Ornithologie. Zeitschrift für Ornithologie. Redact. Otto Herman. Jahrg. X. 1903. Budapest.]

The tenth annual volume of '*Aquila*,' the organ of the "Officium Hungaricum Ornithologicum," has made its appearance in good time, and we have to thank our kind friends at Budapest for an early copy. It is printed, as usual, in parallel columns of Magyar and German, and in excellent type, so that there is no difficulty in understanding its contents. Herr Otto Herman's *résumé* of the ten years' work of the Hungarian Ornithological "Centrale" deserves careful study, as does the same writer's full article on the